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ARGENTINA. 27 *Apr.*—It was learned that a gentleman's agreement had been reached with Britain that neither country would denounce the five-year trade pact signed in June 1949.

AUSTRALIA. 20 *Apr.*—*Malaya.* Mr Spender, Minister for External Affairs, told the House in answer to a question that events in Malaya were part of an attempt by Communist imperialism to get control of south-east Asia. The defence of Malaya was vital to the security of Australia, and those among the Opposition who said it was merely the defence of financial interests were indirectly espousing the doctrines of the Communist Party.

21 *Apr.*—*Malaya.* Mr Menzies, Prime Minister, told Parliament in answer to a question that there had been no direct communication between the U.K. and Australian Governments on military aid for Malaya. The Government would give serious consideration to any U.K. request for aid.

26 *Apr.*—*Malaya.* The Parliamentary Labour Party issued a statement declaring its opposition to the use of Australian forces in Malaya.

27 *Apr.*—*Communism.* The Premier introduced in Parliament a Bill, resting on the Government's defence powers, dissolving the Communist Party, on the ground that it engaged in activities designed to assist or to accelerate the coming of a revolutionary situation in which, acting as a revolutionary minority, it would be able to seize power and establish a dictatorship of the proletariat. The preamble also stated that it was an integral part of the world Communist revolutionary movement, which in the King's Dominions elsewhere was engaged in espionage, sabotage, and treasonable activities. It also declared that certain industries were vital to the security and defence of Australia and that the activities of Communists were designed to cause, through strikes, the dislocation, disruption, or retardation of production or of work in those industries.

The Bill appointed a receiver of the Party's property and of that of affiliated bodies advocating Communism when the Governor-General was satisfied that their continued existence was prejudicial to defence or to the execution and maintenance of the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth.

Mr Menzies explained that a Communist whose activities were likely to prejudice the defence or orderly government of Australia would be debarred from holding office under the Crown or in an organization concerned with a vital industry. He said that Communists, who were the King's enemies, could either be attacked frontally or a policy of inaction could be adopted on the ground that the liberty of the subject must not be impaired or that ideas must not be suppressed. But the latter course assumed that enemies' liberty could be recognized only when they took up arms. Liberty was not an abstraction, it must be related to self-governing institutions, otherwise there could be no such things as treason or subversion. If ideas gave rise to overt action against the safety of the realm, the Government were bound to suppress that action.

The arrogant claim that a Communist could not be touched if he were a trade union official put the unions above the law. Eleven officials of key

trade unions were members of the central committee of the Communist Party and a long list of others were in key trade union positions in key industries. Communism was an international conspiracy against the democracies, organized as a prelude to war, operating as a fifth column in advance of hostilities. The choice was between doing nothing and letting a traitorous minority destroy Australia, or fighting the Communists wherever they were found. As for driving them underground, they were underground already, planning by stealth in secrecy.

29 *Apr.*—*Communism.* The report of the Royal Commission on Communism in Australia was issued by the Victorian Government. It gave the membership of the Party at 12,000 to 13,000, and stated that it had dislocated, retarded, and disrupted industrial production and essential services in Victoria, and regarded itself as the spearhead of the movement to overthrow the existing system, whose present possessors would be violently turned out if they did not abdicate voluntarily. It regarded the prevailing code of ethics as bourgeois and a code for slaves, in which the proletariat created its own ethical conceptions. It was prepared to use any means to attain what it regarded as a desirable end.

Its immediate aim was to capture the leadership of the working class, which it would lead when the Government could no longer govern, and aimed at armed insurrection, if necessary, to seize power and smash the State. It was also prepared to use fraudulent means to attain its ends, and had been shown, in evidence, to be guilty of making false declarations, producing bogus documents, and using the results of trade union ballots for improper purposes. The Commission also found that while the holding of religious beliefs was no bar to membership of the Party, no worker could consistently be both Communist and Christian.

AUSTRIA. 27 *Apr.*—Marshal Tito's statement (*see Yugoslavia*).

1 *May.*—Over 100,000 people took part in an anti-Communist May Day procession in Vienna. Smaller demonstrations by Communists were also staged.

BELGIUM. 20 *Apr.*—The three main parties, Christian Socialists, Liberals, and Socialists, agreed in principle on King Leopold's proposal that he should return and transfer his powers temporarily to the Crown Prince.

24 *Apr.*—Communists demonstrated in Antwerp against the impending arrival of U.S. military equipment.

M. van Zeeland, the Christian Social leader, went to Pregny, Switzerland, to consult King Leopold on his intentions after temporarily handing over power to the Crown Prince—a point which was still at issue between the three parties.

25 *Apr.*—M. van Zeeland, on his return to Brussels, released the text of a letter from the King in which he refused to give any undertaking concerning his movements.

Antwerp docks were largely immobilized by a strike called by the Communists in support of demands for higher wages, and as a protest against the return of King Leopold and the anticipated arrival of U.S.

BELGIUM (*continued*)

arms. Further Communist demonstrations were held and eleven persons were arrested, including a Communist M.P.

26 *Apr.*—The Socialist Party withdrew from the tentative three-Party agreement on the Royal question because of the King's refusal to commit himself to remaining in exile during his son's reign. The Liberals accepted it in principle.

The Regent refused to approve M. van Zeeland's proposal for an all Christian-Social Cabinet.

29 *Apr.*—The Regent decided to dissolve Parliament, owing to the refusal of the Socialists to take part in a coalition Cabinet which would seek to end the Regency. Both Catholics and Liberals had agreed to a compromise plan to meet the views of the King, who, when he offered to hand over his powers to his son, refused to return into exile after doing so. The General Election was fixed for 4 June.

BRITISH EAST AFRICA. 24 *Apr.*—At a meeting at Nairobi called jointly by the Kenya African Union and the East African Indian National Congress, Indian and African members of the Kenya Legislature spoke in denunciation of the European settlers' recent opposition to the proposed reform of the Tanganyika Legislative Council, called for direct elections on a common roll, and warned against attempts to build a society in East Africa on the basis of South African racialism.

25 *Apr.*—Three European officials in the Kenya Government and one African policeman were killed when a police party searching for one of the leaders of a proscribed fanatical religious sect was attacked by about 300 Suk tribesmen near Lake Baringo, 250 miles north-west of Nairobi. Twenty tribesmen were killed by police fire.

BURMA. 24 *Apr.*—Mr Malcolm MacDonald, the British Commissioner-General for south-east Asia, arrived in Rangoon for a short visit.

CANADA. 2 *May*—*South Africa.* The Premier said in Parliament that he saw no reason for such a statement as that made by Dr Malan the previous day being made by any one. Some time ago the House had discussed the question of changes being made in the royal titles, but he knew of nothing else to give any semblance of justification for the view that Canada was dissatisfied. Any Canadian views on the Royal title did not constitute a grievance, and they were certainly not intended to alter the status of the Crown in relation to Canada.

CHINA. 23 *Apr.*—Hoihow, capital of Hainan Island, was occupied by Communist troops following its evacuation by the Nationalists.

25 *Apr.*—*Famine Relief.* A famine relief conference opened in Peking and set up a presidium of thirty.

30 *Apr.*—*Foreigners in Shanghai.* Between 700 and 800 foreigners, including all the remaining U.S. officials in China, left Taku, off Tientsin, for Hong Kong.

The All-China Federation of Labour, in a May Day manifesto,

urged more support for the army in operations against Formosa and Tibet, support for the peasants in land reforms, the abolition of feudalism, greater agricultural production, and the strengthening of co-operation with workers abroad, especially the Russians.

1 *May*—Instructions as to May Day issued by the central committee of the Chinese Communist Party included thirty-eight slogans, among which were: 'celebrate the first May Day since the founding of the People's Republic. Salute the working men and women of China'; 'resolutely carry out the policy of taking into account both public and private interests and of benefiting both labour and capital. Welcome the national bourgeoisie in investing their capital in productive enterprise beneficial to the national welfare'; 'members of the working class, consolidate your ranks and unite with the national bourgeoisie and by a combined effort get over the temporary difficulties and work to change the economic situation steadily for the better'; 'support the correct policy of the Central People's Government of balancing the Budget, stabilizing prices, and adjusting industry and commerce'.

Other slogans referred to land reform and to the part to be played by women in the movement.

A new marriage law came into force, abolishing polygamy and child marriages and giving both sexes equal rights.

2 *May*—*Hainan*. The Nationalists admitted that the whole of Hainan was in the hands of the Communists.

Hong Kong. Several bomb incidents were reported on 30 April and 2 May.

COUNCIL OF FOREIGN MINISTERS. 26 *Apr.*—*Austrian Treaty*. The four deputies resumed discussions in London, but no progress was made. The meeting was adjourned until 22 May, subject to Moscow's approval of that date.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 20 *Apr.*—It was learned that three Czechs had resigned from the British information service on the grounds of its alleged false propaganda and enmity to the State.

21 *Apr.*—U.S. protest and request for closure of Consulate-General in Chicago (*see United States*).

22 *Apr.*—*Espionage Trial*. Six persons were found guilty by a Prague Court of spying for the U.S.A. Two were sentenced to death and the others to prison terms ranging from life to eighteen years.

25 *Apr.*—*Government Changes*. A Cabinet reshuffle was announced involving the transfer of Dr Cepicka from his position as Minister of Justice and Minister of Church Affairs to that of Defence Minister, in place of Gen. Svoboda, who became a deputy Prime Minister and head of the State Bureau for Sports and Physical Culture. The new Minister of Church Affairs was Mr Fierlinger, a deputy Prime Minister, and the new Minister of Justice, Dr Rais, head of the President's Chancery.

26 *Apr.*—'Peace' resolution delivered in London (*see Great Britain*).

28 *Apr.*—The Foreign Ministry presented a Note to the U.S. Embassy demanding the immediate reduction by two-thirds of all

CZECHOSLOVAKIA (*continued*)

branches of the Embassy's staff, stating that the trials of Czech members of the staff had shown that such a move would be in the best interests of good relations between the two countries.

DENMARK. 20 Apr.—Prime Minister in Britain (*see Great Britain*).

26 Apr.—*Defence*. Mr Hansen, Defence Minister, introduced a Bill in Parliament which provided that the three service departments should be merged into one Ministry, and the services themselves united under one Commander-in-Chief, assisted by a defence staff and a defence board.

EIRE. 26 Apr.—*Atlantic Pact*. A White Paper was issued showing that in a Note on 7 January 1949 the Government had been approached by the U.S. Government on their views about joining the Atlantic Pact. On 8 February 1949 the Government had replied that though in general agreement with the proposed treaty they could not commit themselves to any military alliance with the State responsible for the division of Ireland. The participating countries could, however, help in ending a situation which threatened the peace and security of Ireland. On 31 March 1949 the Irish Minister in Washington had been informed verbally by the State Department that the Governments of the Atlantic Treaty did not consider the treaty a suitable framework within which to discuss problems concerning only the Governments of Britain and Ireland. The State Department did not feel that the Irish situation was in any way connected with membership of the pact. After the passing of the Ireland Bill by Britain the Irish Government had sent another Note to the U.S.A. stating that instead of seeking to remove the sole obstacle to Ireland's participation in the Atlantic Pact the British Government were showing a still further disregard of Ireland's territorial integrity. In their reply on 25 May the U.S. Government had said that they saw no connection between the British legislation and the Atlantic Treaty, or that it in any way altered the status of the area in question.

3 May—*Budget*. The Minister for Finance presented the Budget in the Dail, and announced that £34 m. was to be spent on capital development during 1950–51. Total expenditure would be over £107 m.

ERITREA. 25 Apr.—Statement by member of U.N. Commission (*see U.N. Commission for Eritrea*).

ETHIOPIA. 21 Apr.—It was learned that the Government had informed the United Nations that they could not accept responsibility for frontier 'incidents' which might be provoked by the presence of Italian troops in Somaliland.

EUROPEAN RECOVERY PROGRAMME. 20 Apr.—The trade union conference in Rome ended with the adoption of a resolution calling for a policy of full employment as a pre-condition for the liberalization of trade and payments, and declaring that such liberaliza-

tion must not lead to a diminution in social and economic achievements. During the transition period protection must be guaranteed for certain essential parts of the national economy and there must also be a co-ordination of investments. Overseas emigration was urged as a solution to the 'structural unemployment' existing in certain countries. The vital importance of European unity was emphasized but this must be accompanied from the outset by policies of full employment and a more equitable distribution of national incomes.

FINLAND. 23 Apr.—Atomic Energy. The Prime Minister and twelve members of the Cabinet signed a proclamation calling for an unconditional ban on atomic bombs.

3 May—Strikes. A railway strike stopped the goods and mail traffic, and the trade union federation told the Government that a general strike would be called on 8 May unless claims for higher wages were met. (These claims were also being made by civil servants, farm hands, metal workers, foresters, and seamen).

The Prime Minister, in a broadcast, said the strike of engine drivers was a signal for the concerted labour conflicts and crisis which could be expected in the future.

FRANCE. 20 Apr.—Labour Unrest. A court in Brest released provisionally two Communist Deputies arrested during the recent disorders, agreeing with the defence contention that the trial should not proceed until leave had been given by the National Assembly. The two arrested trade union leaders received a suspended sentence of two months' imprisonment.

Soviet Note on Trieste (*see U.S.S.R.*).

23 Apr.—President Auriol, speaking at Lorient, said that continued agitation and sabotage were retarding national reconstruction and weakening France in the eyes of the world. Dictatorship and the loss of liberty might result from violence.

M. Bidault, Prime Minister, commenting on social problems in a speech at Argenton, said that the first duty of the State was to safeguard liberty. The Government were determined to secure justice and public peace, and would punish the law-breakers by all constitutional means.

24 Apr.—Fifty members of a Communist-led organization known as the 'Combatants for Peace' broke into a goods yard at Bordeaux and damaged several army lorries.

26 Apr.—Germany. M. Schuman, Foreign Minister, in a speech to the provincial press, re-emphasized the Government's desire for conciliation with Germany and said their policy was to give Germany a place among the peace-loving nations while recognizing her right to independence. But there must be goodwill and understanding on both sides and, so far, in spite of all the help given by the Allies since the surrender, the German response had been disappointing. He was convinced, however, of Dr Adenauer's sincerity in desiring friendship with France, and recognized that the Chancellor's ill-chosen language

FRANCE (*continued*)

was often a result of internal difficulties. But the Germans must also realize that the French Government's path was not always smooth.

Referring to M. Bidault's proposal for an Atlantic High Council for Peace, M. Schuman said it was essential to have a permanent executive organ in which the U.S.A. would participate, to co-ordinate the work of the existing organizations in western Europe and make them more effective.

A Foreign Office spokesman said that the proposed Atlantic High Council would be a non-military body. There was no question of its being an extension of the Atlantic Pact.

28 Apr.—*Communism*. The Cabinet decided to dismiss M. Joliot-Curie from his post as High Commissioner for Atomic Energy. M. Teitgen, the Minister of State, stated that M. Curie had accepted without reservation the resolutions carried in a recent Communist congress near Paris and had then declared that 'progressive and Communist scientists would never yield a fraction of their knowledge to make war on the Soviet Union'.

30 Apr.—Mr Trygve Lie arrived in Paris and was entertained by President Auriol.

1 May—A Communist May Day parade turned itself into a demonstration for the reinstatement of M. Joliot-Curie. Force Ouvrière and the Christian trade unions all observed a twenty-four-hour strike. Gen. de Gaulle addressed a large rally in the Bois de Boulogne.

2 May—*Chandernagore*. Transfer to Government of the Indian Union (*see India*).

FRENCH NORTH AFRICA. 21 Apr.—*Algeria*. The Governor-General's office announced that 154 arrests had been made and large quantities of arms and ammunition seized during the investigation of a Nationalist plot.

GERMANY. 20 Apr.—*Western Germany*. The High Commissioners, meeting in Berlin, provisionally disapproved a Federal law amending the income-tax and corporation tax law. In a letter to Dr Adenauer, the Federal Chancellor, they said that the decision had been taken reluctantly, but in accordance with their responsibility under Section 2(h) of the Occupation Statute. One of the reasons given was that the proposed law was not in keeping with the E.C.A. agreement between the Federal Republic and the U.S.A. in which the former agreed to attain internal financial stability and a balanced Budget as soon as possible.

It was announced that Sir Brian Robertson, the British High Commissioner, had decided that British control of the newspaper *Die Welt* should gradually end.

A Government spokesman in Bonn said it was true that fourteen of the thirty-one leading officials so far appointed to the foreign service were former Nazis but that thirteen had been cleared by denazification courts and the other one, who had been classed as a minor Nazi, was not concerned with political work. At present it was not intended to send

former Nazis abroad, but it would not always be possible to maintain this limitation.

Berlin. The west Berlin City Assembly adopted a resolution asking the four Commandants to agree to free elections in their Sectors on the basis of the Constitution drawn up by the *Magistrat* in April 1948 and with polling arrangements under four-Power control as in the 1946 elections.

21 Apr.—*Berlin.* The three western Commandants approved the City Assembly's resolution calling for free elections and passed on the request to Gen. Kotikov, the Soviet Commandant. In identical letters to Gen. Kotikov and to Herr Reuter, Lord Mayor, they expressed their belief that the proposal was a reasonable basis for the reunification of the city and also their willingness to resume the work of the four-Power Kommandatura.

Mr McCloy, the U.S. High Commissioner, speaking in Berlin, said that the mere holding of elections would not involve the question of the withdrawal of allied troops from the city. He saw no prospect of the western Powers leaving Berlin in the immediate future. Referring to Dr Adenauer's appeal for the revision of the Occupation Statute he said that this depended on developments in Germany rather than upon the mere passage of time. On the question of allied disapproval of the Federal Government's tax law—an intervention which had aroused considerable criticism in western Germany—he said that the High Commission did not oppose tax reduction as such but had acted because the new law would involve a heavy deficit. A comprehensive financial plan was desired. He also said he did not favour the creation of a western German army.

22 Apr.—*Western Germany.* Dr Adenauer, addressing a meeting of the Christian Democratic Union at Bad Ems strongly criticized allied disapproval of laws passed by the Bundestag as an injustice to those who had taken on responsibility. Voices were to be heard urging that the allies should be told to take over the Government themselves, nominate an advisory committee and work with that. Were Parliament asked now to vote on joining the Council of Europe, the invitation would be rejected because of 'these vetoes'. The status of the Federal Republic had markedly worsened since the Petersberg agreement. It was regrettable that after four months the allies had not replied to the request for a pledge of security. The German people were deeply concerned over the growing tension between the U.S.S.R. and the West and were conscious of the dangers of their impotence, situated as they were between the two camps. He also criticized the simultaneous invitation to the Saar Government and the Federal Government to join the Council of Europe as wounding to the susceptibilities of the German people. The High Commission was potentially the greatest stimulus to nationalism in Germany and for that reason political and not technical considerations should be decisive for its actions.

23 Apr.—*Eastern Germany.* A pastoral letter was read in many of the Evangelical Churches protesting against the materialist philosophy of life preached by the east German Communists and their attacks on

GERMANY (*continued*)

Church leaders, and calling on members of the congregation to take their stand for Christianity wherever the faith was attacked. It was signed by Bishop Dibelius, chairman of the Evangelical Church Council, and other Church leaders. Herr Grotewohl, Prime Minister, wrote to the Prime Ministers and Chiefs of Police in all the five *Länder* and to all Protestant superintendents describing this declaration as 'an attack on the Constitution, the Government, and the Republic'.

A Catholic pastoral letter which was read in churches throughout the Zone condemned materialism, both Communist and capitalist, in general terms.

E.R.P. Mr Hanes, head of the E.C.A. office in Frankfurt, described the recovery of German industry and agriculture as 'dramatic, almost phenomenal, and beyond the expectation of a great many of our top optimists'. Unemployment, however, was still a serious problem.

24 *Apr.*—*Council of Europe*. Dr Adenauer said that Count Sforza, the Italian Foreign Minister, had offered to act as an intermediary between the Bonn Government and the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and had said he would ask for consideration of the west German proposal to send an observer to the Committee's meetings.

25 *Apr.*—*Berlin*. It was learned that Herr Honecker, leader of the Free German Youth Movement, had written to Herr Reuter, Lord Mayor of the western Sectors, requesting that he lift the ban on demonstrations by the movement in western Berlin during the Whitsun rally. He denied that the rally had any non-peaceful aims and reaffirmed that the demonstrators had no intention of forcing their way into western Berlin or of 'yielding to provocation in whatever form'.

26 *Apr.*—*Berlin*. It was learned that the western *Magistrat* had refused Herr Honecker's request to lift the ban on the Whitsun demonstrations in the western Sectors. Mr Acheson's statement (*see United States*).

It was learned that the Russian authorities at Marienborn had tightened the control of rail passenger traffic between east and west Germany, causing long delays.

M. Schuman's speech (*see France*).

Atlantic Pact. Gen. Hardy, C.-in-C. of the U.S. European Command, announced in Heidelberg that 1,600 officers and men of the military forces of seven countries which had signed bilateral arms agreements with the U.S.A. would shortly come to Germany for training in the use and maintenance of the equipment.

Eastern Germany. In a letter to Herr Grotewohl, Dr Dibelius said that the Church did not want or fear a fight against the State. The existing tension could only be relaxed by a clear Government statement that the Christian faith would not be attacked, though the people were beginning to lose faith in Government promises.

28 *Apr.*—*Western Germany*. The Allied High Commission announced that the disapproval of the Federal income-tax law had been withdrawn. Agreement was reached on the matter at a meeting with Dr Adenauer and Dr Schäffer, the Finance Minister, and exchanges of views were

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made on the civil service law. A letter signed by the British High Commissioner and sent to the Chancellor said that the statement submitted by Dr Schäffer made it clear that: (1) the Federal Budget for 1950-51 would be presented in balance; (2) the position of the *Länder* budgets would not be adversely affected by the law; (3) new taxation would be introduced designed to reduce tax exemption in the higher income groups; and (4) further measures would be taken against tax evasion.

Berlin. During the trial before a U.S. court of two of the eight men arrested on 13 April in the U.S. sector both made voluntary statements about the para-military units to which they belonged. These showed that the training was military in character and there were no police duties. There were thirty-six units of 800 to 1,000 men each, with also an Air unit, a Naval unit, and five officer-training schools. The officers included former Wehrmacht officers and Soviet Army officers.

Eastern Germany. A conference was held between Herr Grotewohl, the Premier, and the Evangelical Bishop of Berlin, Dr Dibelius, and the Roman Catholic Bishop of Magdeburg, and a communiqué was then issued stating that the Church representatives had given an assurance that the restoration of the German people's life in peace and freedom was their urgent desire. Representatives of the Government gave an assurance that the Churches could fulfil their work 'on the basis of the Constitution'.

30 Apr.—*Eastern Germany.* A letter from Cardinal Preysing, Roman Catholic Bishop of Berlin to Herr Grotewohl was published by *Der Tag* (in west Berlin). It called for a change in Government policy, and contained four points giving the Churches' case against the regime, i.e. (1) the spreading of a materialistic outlook in schools, organizations, the press, public speeches, etc.; (2) restrictions on the Churches' activities; (3) pressure to join organizations and approve measures which Christians knew to be false; and (4) the lack of a Church press to present Christian ideas to the people and counter the 'innumerable attacks' on the Church.

1 May—*Berlin.* The west Berlin May Day demonstration was attended by up to 400,000 people and was completely orderly, but at its conclusion disorders took place on the boundary between the British and Russian Sectors. Stones were thrown by irresponsible youths at the people's police in the Potsdamerplatz, and it was about an hour before the western Sector police were able to gain control of the crowd and disperse it in the direction away from the Russian Sector. The people's police did not retaliate or attempt to enter the British Sector.

In the Soviet Sector some 300,000 Germans attended a meeting addressed by the Minister of Propaganda, and a march past took place of the People's Police and the Free German Youth.

Saar. A May Day clash at Saarbrücken between police and Communists led to the arrest of several men, including the chairman of the Saar Communist Party, after seven policemen had been injured. The trouble was caused by Communists interfering with, and trying to break up, the Socialist Party's meetings and procession.

2 May—*E.C.A.* Mr Harriman, the special E.C.A. representative in

GERMANY (*continued*)

Europe, arrived in Berlin and discussed with German and U.S. officials the investment of funds in the Western Sector of Berlin. He told the press that the short-term programme for the city aimed at putting 100,000 unemployed back to work by the end of 1950, and the long-term plan was to rebuild the productive capacity of industry, which was only 26 per cent of pre-war, and to expand trade.

Western Germany. The British High Commissioner accepted German plans for alternative uses of the plant of the Herman Göring works at Watenstedt-Salzgitter in Lower Saxony and withdrew the order for their dismantlement. The plans promised to provide work for 2,000 workers.

Saar. Parliament unanimously approved a motion in favour of accepting the invitation from the Council of Europe to become an associate member of the Council.

GREAT BRITAIN. 20 *Apr.*—*Strikes.* The number of strikers in the London docks increased to nearly 7,000. Mr Isaacs, Minister of Labour, told the House that the stoppage was solely connected with the expulsion of three members of the Transport and General Workers' Union under the constitutional rules that governed such proceedings, and was clearly Communist-inspired.

Mr Hedtoft, the Danish Prime Minister, arrived in Britain. Soviet Note on Trieste (*see U.S.S.R.*).

Western Union. Mr Shinwell, Defence Minister, speaking to the House at question time about the work done at the recent meeting of the Consultative Council said that consideration had been given to certain plans developed by the Military Committee, including the preparation of headquarters, the installation of signal communications, the development of airfields, and air navigational aids. It had been made clear that the Government had agreed to the principle of contributing to the cost of such works as would be of common advantage to the five Powers and of high military priority but that any such contribution could only be found at the expense of some other projected expenditure in the current defence budget of the U.K.

Protectorates. Mr Gordon-Walker, Secretary for Commonwealth Relations, told the House in answer to a question about Dr Malan's recent statement (13 April) that the Government were prepared to discuss any problem with any Commonwealth Government at any time and that in the course of the past negotiations the statement by Gen. Hertog was a very important one.

Commonwealth. Mr Wilson, President of the Board of Trade, told the Commons in the course of the Budget debate that while the dollar drive must continue to occupy a central place in the country's export efforts the Government attached great importance to trade with the Commonwealth which was the corner-stone of Britain's economic recovery. In 1949 the Commonwealth had taken 51 per cent of Britain's total exports.

23 *Apr.*—Mr Ghulam Mohammed, the Finance Minister of Pakistan, arrived in London.

24 Apr.—*Strikes*. Troops were called in to unload food ships at the London docks, where the number of men on strike rose to about 12,500.

British proposal to U.S.A. *re* sterling balances (*see United States*).

26 Apr.—*Czechoslovakia*. The Foreign Office received from the Czechoslovak Embassy the text of a resolution adopted by the Czechoslovak Parliament on 22 February with the request that it be forwarded to both Houses of Parliament. The resolution, copies of which were being delivered to all countries in diplomatic relations with Czechoslovakia, called on the western Powers to cease the production of arms, prohibit atomic weapons, stop their resistance to Communism in Malaya, Viet Nam, and elsewhere, alter their policy in western Germany, and conclude a peace pact with the U.S.S.R. within the framework of the United Nations.

Colonies. Mr Griffiths, Colonial Secretary, told the House at question time that the total amount of free grants given or promised to the colonies from January 1945 to the end of 1951 was £183,219,525, of which, however, a considerable portion would not be spent during the period.

Malaya. Mr Griffiths said that the Federal Government of Malaya planned to continue the opportunities for voluntary service. A total of 25,000 volunteers would be needed for a variety of duties.

27 Apr.—Gentleman's agreement with Argentina (*see Argentina*).

Mr Trygve Lie, the U.N. Secretary-General, arrived in London.

Strikes. The London Dock Labour Board announced that unless the strikers returned to work by 1 May their services would be terminated.

Palestine. The Minister of State announced in Parliament that the Government had decided to accord *de jure* recognition to the State of Israel and to recognize formally the union of the Kingdom of Jordan and the part of Palestine under the latter's government and control. Recognition, was however, subject to certain explanations on the question of boundaries and on the position regarding Jerusalem.

Mr Younger continued: 'the Government take this opportunity of declaring that they regard the provisions of the Anglo-Jordan Treaty of 1948 as applicable to all the territory included in the union'. Recognition of the union was subject to explanations on two points: (1) the frontier with Israel had not been finally determined. The armistice boundary line was subject to any modification which might be agreed on by the two countries, or any final settlement which might replace it. Until that was done the Government regarded the territory to which the 1948 Treaty applied as being bounded by the armistice line or any modification agreed on by the two parties; (2) the part of Palestine now united to Jordan included part of the area defined under resolutions on the internationalization of Jerusalem adopted by the U.N. Assembly on 9 December. Pending final determination of the status of this area the Government were unable to recognize Jordan sovereignty over any part of it, but they did recognize that Jordan exercised *de facto* authority in the part she occupied. The Anglo-Jordan Treaty applied to this part unless or until the U.N. had established effective authority there.

GREAT BRITAIN (*continued*)

The Government had no intention of requesting the establishment of military bases in peace-time within the area of Palestine now united to Jordan.

As to Israel, *de jure* recognition was subject to explanation on two points. Jerusalem: The Government were unable to recognize Israel's sovereignty over the part of the city which she occupied, though, pending final determination of the status of the area, they recognized that Israel exercised *de facto* authority in it. Boundaries: They could not regard the existing boundaries between Israel and Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon as the definitive frontiers of Israel, as they were subject to any modification which might be agreed upon under the terms of the armistices or of any final settlement which might replace them.

28 Apr.—*Strikes*. Mr Isaacs stated in Parliament that troops would be withheld from the docks the following morning to encourage a more widespread return to work, since some 2,000 dockers had just decided to resume work then. He also said that consideration was being given to the holding of an inquiry into the general state of affairs at the docks with a view to removing any legitimate grievances.

The Dock Labour Board stated that 14,337 men were on strike that day and the number of ships idle was 80. The War Office stated that 5,850 servicemen were at work.

Mr Attlee received Mr Trygve Lie, who also saw Mr Younger, Sir William Strang, and other Ministers and officials.

29 Apr.—*Strikes*. More than 3,000 dockers returned to work, and troops were withdrawn. At a meeting in Bethnal Green the strikers passed unanimously a resolution to resume work on 1 May, but it also reaffirmed the men's determination to secure the reinstatement of the three men in the union.

Mr Liaquat Ali Khan arrived in London.

30 Apr.—Mr Liaquat Ali Khan met Mr Gordon-Walker, Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations.

1 May.—*Strikes*. The London dockers returned to work. The working days lost by the strike were estimated at 94,000.

In the Commons a division on road transport resulted in a tie of 278 votes for and against an Opposition amendment to reduce the salary of the Minister of Transport, and the amendment was only defeated by the adverse vote of the Chairman of Committees, Major Milner.

The Minister of Food announced the removal, as from 2 May, of the 5s. limit on meals in restaurants.

2 May—Mr Liaquat Ali Khan left London for the U.S.A.

Lord Fraser in Oslo (*see Norway*).

GREECE. 20 Apr.—*Yugoslavia*. Gen. Plastiras, the Prime Minister and acting Foreign Minister, received the Yugoslav Chargé d'Affaires.

24 Apr.—Gen. Plastiras, Prime Minister, presenting the Government's programme to Parliament, gave an assurance that there would be no relaxation of measures to protect the security of the State and that the

size of the army would not be reduced until safety was secured. No general amnesty would be granted to the rebels, but leniency would be shown to those rebels who had been 'led astray'. Other points included:— an administrative purge in the interests of efficiency, Government decentralization, a redress of economic injustices, and plans for making proper use of U.S. aid. On foreign policy he reaffirmed Greece's desire for friendship with the western allies and for improved relations with her neighbours; and he thanked Britain and the U.S.A. for their help.

27 Apr.—Marshal Tito's statement (*see Yugoslavia*).

General Plastiras's coalition received a vote of confidence in Parliament by 140 votes to 99.

28 Apr.—The Prime Minister announced that Greece would soon appoint an Ambassador to Belgrade.

1 May—Labour Day celebrations were held in Athens for the first time since 1936. There were no incidents. It was announced that over 600 persons were being released at once from the camp at Makronisos.

HUNGARY. 26 Apr.—*Government Changes*. It was announced that President Szakasits had resigned because of ill-health and had been succeeded by Mr Sandor Ronai, a former Minister of Foreign Trade and a member of the Politburo of the Hungarian Workers' Party.

INDIA. 20 Apr.—A violent explosion occurred at the foot of the Ochterlony monument in Calcutta.

21 Apr.—Trade agreement with Pakistan (*see Pakistan*).

26 Apr.—Pandit Nehru in Karachi (*see Pakistan*).

Dr Matthai, Finance Minister, said there had been a considerable improvement in the balance of payments as a result of the devaluation of the rupee but that there was no justification for revaluation under existing circumstances. Such a measure might undo what had been achieved and lead to a further deterioration.

Communism. A meeting of Hyderabad and Madras officials was held in Hyderabad to co-ordinate action to end Communist terrorism on the border between the two provinces.

2 May—*French India*. Chandernagore was formally taken over from France by the Indian Government.

INDO CHINA. 22 Apr.—A train was attacked by rebels near Nhatrang, in Annam, about 200 miles north-east of Saigon. Six passengers were reported killed and eight injured.

23 Apr.—It was announced that French troops had recaptured the post of Pholu, in the Red River valley.

25 Apr.—It was learned that French troops had destroyed a Viet Minh arms factory near Tam Dao, fifty miles north-west of Hanoi.

An attack by about 1,000 Viet Minh troops on a Government post at My Phuoc, 150 miles south-west of Saigon, was repulsed.

27 Apr.—The Prime Minister of Viet Nam, Nguyen Phan Long, resigned, and the Emperor asked Tran Van Huu, Governor of South Viet Nam, to form a Cabinet.

INDO CHINA (*continued*)

28 *Apr.*—M. Bazin, the French deputy chief of security services in South Viet Nam, was assassinated in Saigon by a member of the Viet-Minh forces.

1 *May*—*Cambodia*. The King, Norodom Sihanouk, issued a proclamation stating that owing to the serious internal situation he would himself take over provisionally the functions of head of the Government.

INDONESIA. 20 *Apr.*—Federal troops under Major Worang entered Macassar.

25 *Apr.*—It was learned that the East Indonesian Parliament had adopted a motion by 49 votes to 1 calling on the Government to resign. It was also learned that martial law had been proclaimed in Macassar.

26 *Apr.*—Troops in Ambon (Amboina) rebelled against the Federal Government and proclaimed a 'Republic of the South Moluccas'. The leaders of the revolt were believed to be Manuhutu, acting head of the local administration, Warisal, a member of the South Molucca Council, and Dr Soumokil, until recently Attorney-General of East Indonesia.

It was announced that South Celebes had severed relations with East Indonesia and proclaimed itself a province of the Republic.

27 *Apr.*—Two Americans, Mr Robert Doyle, a journalist, and Dr Kennedy were murdered by Indonesians in uniform between Bandoeng and Cheribon.

3 *May*—The official news agency in Jakarta stated that the former Prime Minister of East Indonesia, Dr Diapari, and several of his colleagues had been arrested at Macassar, in the Celebes, on suspicion of complicity in the April revolt against the Federal Republic.

The Indonesian Government applied to the Singapore Government for the extradition of 'Turk' Westerling.

ITALY. 20 *Apr.*—*Eritrea*. It was learned that the Government had presented a memo to the president of the U.N. Commission for Eritrea, who was staying in Rome, noting their continued interest in the well-being of Eritrea, reaffirming the principle that respect for the will of the local population must be paramount in deciding the fate of the territory, and expressing the conviction that the solution of independence would safeguard pacific relations between Italy and Ethiopia.

Yugoslav criticism of Italian attitude to Trieste (*see Yugoslavia*).

22 *Apr.*—*Trieste*. Count Sforza, Foreign Minister, replying to a debate in the Chamber in which the Government's policy was strongly criticized by both left and right-wing speakers, re-emphasized the validity of the three-Power declaration of 1948 and reaffirmed the Government's desire for direct negotiations with Belgrade on the basis of this declaration. He made it clear however that the recent outburst of violence against Italians in Istria was intolerable and hinted at the possibility of Italian repudiation of the peace treaty if Yugoslavia annexed Zone B. He also reminded the west that as an ally in the event of threatened war Italy was greatly superior to Yugoslavia.

27 Apr.—Marshal Tito's statement (*see Yugoslavia*).

29 Apr.—*Trieste*. Count Sforza, commenting on Marshal Tito's remarks regarding Trieste, said they must be considered as tactical moves, and it was understood that the Government regarded the proposals as unacceptable.

30 Apr.—A new anti-Communist trade union organization was formed, entitled *Confederazione Italiana dei Sindacati dei Laboratori*, or C.I.S.L. It was a merger of the Catholic Free Italian Confederation of Trade Unions, (L.C.G.I.L.), the Democratic Socialist-Republican Federation of Labour (F.I.L.), and the so-called 'autonomous' trade unions. The new body was independent of the parties and of the Government.

2 May—Marshal Graziani was found guilty by a military court in Rome of military collaboration with the Germans after the armistice and sentenced to nineteen years' imprisonment. Of this thirteen years eight months were remitted under various amnesties. (As he had already been in gaol for four years two months he had only fourteen months more to serve.)

3 May—*Trieste*. The Prime Minister stated in the Senate that Italy would claim reparations and justice for the damage suffered by the people of Istria during the elections in the Yugoslav Zone on 16 April. After their declaration of March 1948 the three western allies were more than ever bound to offer urgently their good offices. He said that Russia had repeatedly violated the peace treaty by preventing Italy from joining the United Nations. Even during the preparation of the treaty it was apparent that the best means of getting agreement over Trieste was by direct negotiations between Italy and Yugoslavia. In the meantime, the situation in Zone B must be restored; after the elections 247 people had taken refuge in Trieste. Until a definite solution was secured the situation in the Zone must be made compatible with the rights of the people.

JAPAN. 22 Apr.—Soviet statement on prisoners-of-war (*see U.S.S.R.*).

An economic-commercial conference under the chairmanship of Mr Sebald, the acting political adviser for Japan, ended in Tokyo. Attended by Mr Blaisdell, U.S. assistant Secretary of Commerce, and twenty U.S. diplomats from posts in south and east Asia, it was largely concerned with the promotion of international and inter-regional trade.

2 May—*Communism*. Gen. MacArthur, speaking on the third anniversary of the Constitution, said the nature of the Japanese Communist Party, 'the arm of an alien Power', raised the question 'whether it should any longer be regarded as a constitutionally recognized political movement'. He accused the Communists of trying to lead Japan into 'an even greater disaster than her recent defeat'. He said the Party had become increasingly intemperate in its activities and had aroused popular revulsion; a shattered remnant and the avowed satellite of an international predatory force, it had publicly adopted objectives inimical to the interests of Japan.

He also said that the Japanese people had shown a great ability to live

JAPAN (*continued*)

and advance within 'their great constitutional precepts. As Japan goes, so in due time may go all of Asia'. Men would see in the Japanese Bill of Rights the antidote to many of Asia's ills, and history might point to the Constitution as 'the Magna Charta of free Asia'.

Taxation. The House of Councillors refused to pass a Bill sponsored by S.C.A.P. headquarters for the revision of local taxation law. (It had been passed by the House of Representatives against strong opposition, all the opposition parties walking out in protest). The Diet then rose.

3 May—*Taxation.* Gen. MacArthur issued a statement saying he had full confidence that at the next session of the Diet, once the coming election for the Upper House was over, legislators would show resolution in statesmanship and unity of purpose to pass the Bill, which was designed to ensure stability in public finance.

It was learnt that Gen. MacArthur had received a letter from Gen. Derevyanko, Soviet member of the Allied Council for Japan, asking for details of the reconstruction and modernization of former Japanese air and naval bases by the U.S. forces. It complained that the rebuilding of the naval base at Yokosuka and air bases throughout Japan and the Ryukyu Islands was incompatible with the policy decision of the Far Eastern Commission in Washington taken on 19 June 1947.

The head of the Yokosuka base, Admiral Decker, stated that it was one of the chief links in the island chain of defences against Communism stretching from Alaska through the Philippines, and declared that if the United States lost Japan as a base the next stop would be California.

JORDAN, KINGDOM OF. 24 Apr.—*Palestine.* In the Speech from the Throne at the opening of Parliament the King announced the annexation of Arab Palestine. The Government considered the Arab League decision of 12 April 1948 (that Palestine occupation should end with 'Zionist aggression') invalidated by the Rhodes armistice with Israel and by its acceptance of the U.N. partition plan. Both contradicted the League's original resolution, and the situation now existing between Jordan and Palestine made unification 'imperative'. The annexations would not prejudice the final settlement of Palestine's 'just case within the spheres of its national aspirations, international justice, and inter-Arab co-operation'. This declaration was then approved by Parliament.

27 Apr.—British recognition of union with Arab Palestine (*see Great Britain*).

KOREA. 27 Apr.—The South Korean Army claimed the complete defeat of a Communist force 600 strong which raided South Korean territory on 27 March.

MALAYA. 21 Apr.—Mr Menzies on Australian aid (*see Australia*).

23 Apr.—Bandits took about 1,000 identity cards from labourers on two rubber estates in the Sungei Siput area of Pahang.

24 *Apr.*—Following a decision by the Federal Government not to register the Malay Nationalist Party, members of which had allied themselves with subversive organizations, the party announced that it would close down all branches in the Federation but would continue functioning in Singapore.

Bandits shot dead a Chinese school teacher at Ayer Kuning, in Perak.

A Government statement said that the bandits had formed killer squads which were under orders to execute any comrade suspected of wishing to surrender.

22 *Apr.*—Nearly 1,000 British and Gurkha troops landed at Singapore.

26 *Apr.*—Statement by Mr Griffiths (*see Great Britain*).

28 *Apr.*—A grenade was thrown at Sir Franklin Gimson, Governor of Singapore, when he was leaving the Singapore stadium, but though it hit him it fell away and exploded without causing any damage.

30 *Apr.*—It was announced that a regulation, to come into force on 1 June, rendered Communist agents convicted of collecting or receiving food, money, or supplies for the terrorists liable to the death penalty.

The Singapore police arrested nine Communist leaders, including the man believed to be responsible for the attack on the Governor, and seized literature. This included plans for a fortnight's programme of subversive activities, to include strikes, arson, murders, etc., all to be carried out in the name of the Malayan Communist Party, the Malayan National Liberation Army, the Singapore Anti-British League, or the Singapore All-Races All-Trades and Labour Union.

3 *May*—A rubber processing plant in the Tapah district of Perak was wrecked by bandits.

NORWAY. 2 *May*—The British First Sea Lord, Admiral of the Fleet Lord Fraser, arrived in Oslo and was entertained by the King.

PAKISTAN. 21 *Apr.*—*Trade Agreement.* The trade deadlock with India resulting from disagreement between the two countries on devaluation was broken with the conclusion in Karachi of a three months' trade pact. Transactions would be in the Indian rupee, for which Pakistan would keep an account in India.

22 *Apr.*—*Sterling-dollar Balance.* It was announced that the Government had agreed to the British Government's request to continue for a year the 25 per cent cut in dollar expenditure.

23 *Apr.*—Finance Minister in London (*see Great Britain*).

26 *Apr.*—Pandit Nehru, the Indian Prime Minister, arrived in Karachi for discussions.

27 *Apr.*—At the end of the talks between Mr Liaquat Ali Khan, Prime Minister, and Pandit Nehru, a statement was issued declaring that the whole field of Indo-Pakistan relations had been reviewed. They were satisfied with the progress made in the implementation of the Delhi agreement. It had been decided to continue these meetings, which helped to promote a better understanding between the two countries.

PALESTINE. 24 *Apr.*—Annexation of Arab Palestine (*see Jordan*). A Government spokesman said that this unilateral act was in no way binding on Israel.

25 *Apr.*—An Israeli Government spokesman accused Britain of encouraging 'an explosive situation in the Middle East' by supplying arms to the Arab States while maintaining an embargo against Israel.

27 *Apr.*—Announcement of recognition (*see Great Britain*).

1 *May*—*Labour Day*. Organized labour ceased work, and during demonstrations a few incidents occurred in which several persons were injured.

PANAMA. 30 *Apr.*—The Government outlawed the Communist Party. A resolution signed by every member of the Cabinet stated that, owing to the Panama Canal adjoining Panama, 'this country is bound, by virtue of bilateral treaties, to contribute to the protection and joint security of the U.S.A.'

PORTUGAL. 21 *Apr.*—The National Assembly annulled the law by which Portuguese royal families were forbidden to enter the country. The Assembly also passed an amnesty decree for certain classes of political prisoners.

RHODESIA. 29 *Apr.*—The report was published of a committee set up to examine the machinery for inter-territorial co-operation in Central Africa. It recommended the formation of a Rhodesia-Nyasaland secretariat and inter-territorial conference, the latter to meet at least once a year and to control the secretariat. It would consist of the Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia and the Governors of Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland.

The recommendations had been accepted by the Governments of all three territories.

RUMANIA. 20 *Apr.*—*Nationalization*. A decree was issued nationalizing without compensation all the remaining private property of importance, leaving unaffected only the artisans, small traders, and members of certain professions.

26 *Apr.*—Request for closing of diplomatic office in New York (*see United States*).

28 *Apr.*—*Treason Trials*. A military court convicted five Rumanians of spying and sentenced one to life imprisonment. Four of them had worked for the British or U.S. information offices in Bucarest. Two received sentences of twenty years, and two of fifteen years.

SOUTH AFRICA. 20 *Apr.*—*Racial Policy*. Dr Jansen, Minister for Economic Affairs, told Parliament that the Government aimed at the territorial separation of the races so far as this was practicable. They were also determined eventually to abolish native representation in the House of Assembly and contemplated instead the restoration of an improved tribal system which might ultimately lead to a central council

for all the Union's natives. Something, too, must be done to bring the urban natives under tribal control and also to check the ever-increasing native congestion in the towns. Another urgent task was the purchase of extra land for the natives and the question of soil conservation and rehabilitation.

Mr Gordon-Walker on protectorates (*see Great Britain*).

21 Apr.—*Racial Policy*. Dr Dönges, Minister of the Interior, gave notice in Parliament of the Group Areas Bill, which defined the three main racial groups as white, native, and coloured and authorized the Government to set aside specific areas in which only members of a particular racial group could live or own property. The Bill provided for the establishment of a land tenure advisory board to advise the Minister and also for the repeal of most laws affecting Asians enacted between 1919 and 1950. A Government memo said the Bill would help to remove the friction among the various racial groups—one of the main objects of *apartheid*. Its legislation did not imply racial discrimination because restrictions were equally imposed on all groups.

25 Apr.—*Racial Policy*. It was learned that the president of the South African Indian Congress had appealed to the United Nations to take action to prevent the passing into law of the Group Areas Bill.

1 May—*Foreign Affairs*. The Prime Minister, speaking in the Senate, said he was considering the establishment of diplomatic relations with Spain, whose Government was no danger to other countries and was not aggressive. He had no intention of raising the question of the Protectorates with Britain until that country had a more stable Government. He did not want to make the Protectorates a bone of political contention. While remaining a member of the United Nations the Union would stand firm over South-West Africa, which would not be thrown to the wolves. India's decision to become a republic meant that 'if we wanted to become a republic then we could become that without isolation and without revolution'.

He added that Canada was dissatisfied with the position concerning the King's title, and considered himself that the title should be altered because at the conference of Prime Ministers in 1949 it was decided that a member of the Commonwealth could become a republic without renouncing its membership.

May Day. In the Johannesburg area the police in native townships had to fire on African demonstrators who were stoning them, and killed eighteen and wounded thirty. Meetings had been held in defiance of a ban by the Government from 29 April to 2 May because of Communist plans for protest demonstrations.

2 May—*Strikes*. Mr Swart, Minister of Justice, stated in the House of Assembly that the natives of the Rand had returned to work, and explained that he had authorized the magistrates of Rand districts to ban meetings on May Day because they reported that there was a danger of disturbances. He gave details of the rioting and paid a tribute to the police. There had nowhere been clashes between natives and European civilians.

It was stated in Capetown that cabled summaries of the Premier's

SOUTH AFRICA (*continued*)

speech the previous day had very possibly been misinterpreted in Canada.

TRIESTE. 20 *Apr.*—Soviet Note to Britain, France, and the U.S.A. (*see U.S.S.R.*).

Statements by Mr Mates (*see Yugoslavia*).

22 *Apr.*—Count Sforza's speech (*see Italy*).

23 *Apr.*—*Tanjug* comment on Soviet Note (*see Yugoslavia*).

24 *Apr.*—An Allied Military Government spokesman, giving details of the improved economic position in the Anglo-U.S. Zone, in reply to Soviet accusations to the contrary, said that Britain had been spending £1 m. yearly in Trieste, while U.S. expenditure in 1949 amounted to \$7,700,000.

30 *Apr.*—Italian views on Marshal Tito's proposals (*see Italy*).

A meeting of some 10,000 inhabitants of Gorizia protested against Tito's suggestion that the city should be incorporated into Yugoslavia.

3 *May*—Italian Premier's speech in the Senate (*see Italy*).

TURKEY. 3 *May*—*Communism*. The arrest was announced of members of a secret Communist organization.

UNITED NATIONS

COMMISSION FOR ERITREA

25 *Apr.*—Following the conclusion of its inquiry in Eritrea, Addis Ababa, Cairo, and Rome, the Commission met in Geneva to begin drafting its report. The Pakistani member told a press conference that the inquiry had been much complicated by the clash of political and religious interests. The population of Eritrea was almost equally divided between Muslims and Copts, and while the former wanted complete independence, the latter favoured complete union with Ethiopia, with the exception of a minority in the coastal area who wanted independence.

28 *Apr.*—The Commission met in Geneva to draft its report and discussed the British proposals. These favoured the incorporation into Eritrea of the central and eastern provinces, subject to safeguards for Italian and other minorities, and the incorporation of the western province into the Sudan. An independent Eritrea was not considered a practical proposition, since the country was not economically viable and did not possess national, racial, religious, linguistic, or geographical unity.

SECRETARIAT

24 *Apr.*—In a message to mark the fifth anniversary of the San Francisco conference Mr Warren Austin, the chief U.S. delegate, said the U.S.A. was not preparing for aggressive war and would maintain peace because nobody would dare start one. The movement of American arms to Europe was itself a guarantee of peace.

3 *May*—Mr Trygve Lie, in a press conference in Paris, said they

were at the cross roads. It was proposed to split the world permanently into two camps, and to that road there was only one possible end—a third world war sooner or later. The first step to stop the cold war must be to restore the United Nations as a meeting place for negotiations on differences among the great Powers. The longer the cold war lasted the more the U.N. became incapable of functioning efficiently.

THE COMMISSION FOR CONVENTIONAL ARMAMENTS

27 Apr.—The Commission met, for the first time since August 1949, to receive the Assembly's recommendations that it should continue the study of the French plan for an international census of arms and effectives. M. Malik denounced the credentials of the 'Kuomintang' delegate and demanded his exclusion. He was defeated by 4 votes to 3 with 4 abstentions and walked out of the meeting.

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL

2 May.—It was learnt that none of the ten members of the Council invited by the Israeli Government had accepted the invitation to send representatives to investigate conditions in Jerusalem. The U.S.S.R. and the Dominican Republic had not replied, and Argentina, Australia, Belgium, France, New Zealand, the Philippines, the U.K., and the U.S.A. had refused.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

23 Apr.—It was learned that Czechoslovakia had withdrawn from the Organization.

UNITED STATES. 20 Apr.—President Truman, addressing the American Society of Newspaper Editors, emphasized the importance of spreading the truth about freedom and democracy and thus undermining Communist propaganda. This was an essential element of foreign policy, as important as armed strength or economic aid.

President Truman received Mr Trygve Lie, the U.N. Secretary-General, for a discussion on world affairs.

Soviet Note on Trieste (*see U.S.S.R.*).

21 Apr.—Further Soviet Note on frontier violation by U.S. plane (*see U.S.S.R.*).

Trieste. Mr Acheson, Secretary of State, denied at a press conference Soviet charges that the U.S.A. was violating the Italian peace treaty by maintaining troops in Trieste, and that an Anglo-U.S. naval base had been set up there. The Government favoured direct negotiations between Italy and Yugoslavia on Trieste.

Czechoslovakia. It was learned that two Notes had been sent to the Czechoslovak Government, the first strongly criticizing the 'unwarranted' requests in their recent Note (*see page 234*) and demanding in retaliation the closing of the Czech Consulate-General in Chicago, and the second asking for an apology for 'improper acts' by the Czechoslovak secret police against the director of the U.S. Information Service library in Prague.

UNITED STATES (*continued*)

22 Apr.—Mr Acheson, addressing a meeting of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, spoke of the Soviet Communist threat to civilization and said the U.S.A. was the main target for attack because it was that country, with its belief in freedom and tolerance, its great productive power, and its tremendous vitality which stood between the Kremlin and dominion over the entire world. Soviet policy was directed towards dividing the American people, picking off the free nations one by one, building up an idea of the inevitability of Communism as the 'wave of the future', and changing the balance of productive power in the world. The U.S.A. must meet this challenge with a six-point programme:— (1) By demonstrating their own faith in freedom; (2) by telling the world of the meaning and purpose of freedom; (3) by organizing the defence of the area in which they carried into action their belief in freedom; (4) by helping to create better material conditions at home and abroad; (5) by developing a system of world trade in which goods and services might be freely exchanged. This involved making use of and expanding the international machinery at hand; (6) by facing the question of relations with the U.S.S.R. and the satellite States. But there could be no agreement and no approach to an agreement unless the idea of aggression was done away with. And 'aggression' meant not only military attack but propaganda warfare and the secret undermining of free countries from within. 'The real and present threat of aggression stands in the way of every attempt at understanding with the Soviet Union'.

End of conference in Tokyo (*see U.S. Conference on the Far East*).

23 Apr.—*Defence*. Mr Johnson, Secretary of Defence, in the Department's half-yearly report to the end of 1949 said the U.S.A. had developed new weapons more powerful than the world had ever seen and which might spell the difference between victory and defeat in war.

24 Apr.—A State Department spokesman confirmed that the British Government had submitted a memo suggesting that the U.S.A. should give direct dollar aid to certain countries, including Pakistan and India, who in return would cancel an equivalent amount of the British sterling debt owed to them. He added that the U.S.A., Britain, and Canada had been discussing the problem of sterling balances since the tripartite financial talks in September but that no decisions had been made.

Communism. President Truman, addressing the Federal Bar Association, defended the Administration's anti-Communist programme and reaffirmed his determination that loyal Government employees must be protected against false or malicious accusations. The Administration had no intention of controlling what people read, thought, or said or of turning the U.S.A. into a right-wing totalitarian country to deal with a left-wing totalitarian threat.

26 Apr.—*Germany*. Mr Acheson reaffirmed to the press that the western Allies would deal firmly with any situation arising out of the Communist Whitsun demonstrations in Berlin and that they had no intention of leaving the city. He also said that the State Department was studying all proposals for the closer integration of western Germany,

both politically and economically, into the community of the Atlantic nations.

Defence. Mr Johnson, Secretary of Defence, appearing before the House Appropriations Committee, asked Congress for additional defence funds of \$350 m., a request which the committee later approved. Recent events such as the Soviet atomic explosion, the fall of China, the situation in south-east Asia, deteriorating relations with Russia and the satellites, etc. had convinced the defence leaders of the possibility that higher appropriations might be required in succeeding years both for the military forces of the U.S.A. and for the Military Aid programme. The other Atlantic Pact nations might also be forced to take similar action.

Publication of Eire-U.S. exchange of Notes on Atlantic Pact (*see Eire*).

Rumania. A Note was sent to the Rumanian Government rejecting the accusations contained in their Note of 14 April *re* the activities of the U.S. Information Service in Bucharest (the operations of which had been suspended) and ordering the closing of a Rumanian Commercial Attaché's office in New York.

27 Apr.—*Spain.* The Senate rejected by 42 votes to 35 an amendment to the Foreign Aid Bill authorizing \$100 m. in loans to Spain. Senator Connolly, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, said that while he was not opposed to the principle of loans being made to Spain he had opposed this amendment because it would have been offensive to some members of the O.E.E.C.

United Nations. Mr Foster Dulles, foreign policy adviser to the Secretary of State, speaking to the American Society of International Law, said that the time had come to start planning a general conference to review the U.N. Charter. Many new factors had emerged since 1945, and the United Nations must not be allowed to stand still.

30 Apr.—*Forces Overseas.* It was officially announced that the number of troops in Germany was 146,500, and in the Far East, 123,500. In addition, some 300,000 were abroad in various capacities.

3 May—The Prime Minister of Pakistan arrived in Washington and was entertained by President Truman.

Mr Acheson, at a press conference, said that the Soviet deputy had suddenly called a meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers' deputies on the Austrian peace treaty for the next day in order to discuss Russian charges that the Austrian Government had failed to comply with the Allied Council's decisions on denazification and demilitarization, but the Allied Council in Vienna was the proper forum for discussion of matters of that character. The Russians attempted, on the basis of these allegations, to amend an already agreed article in the treaty, and their move was obviously a further delaying tactic intended to serve as a pretext for refusal to conclude a treaty.

U.S.S.R. 20 Apr.—*Trieste.* A Note was sent to Britain, France, and the U.S.A. accusing them of failing to fulfil their obligations towards Trieste under the Italian peace treaty and of setting up a naval base

U.S.S.R. (*continued*)

there. The Government considered the situation 'intolerable' and insisted on the application of the terms of the treaty, including the immediate appointment of a Governor, the formation of a provisional Government Council, the establishment of a date for the enactment of the Permanent Statute, the closing of the unlawful Anglo-U.S. naval base, and the withdrawal of British and U.S. troops.

21 Apr.—U.S.A. A Note was sent to the U.S. Government rejecting the statements in the U.S. Note of 18 April and declaring that it had been 'established with certainty' that the U.S. plane which 'violated the Soviet frontier south of Libau' on 8 April was a four-engined military plane—a Flying Fortress. After reaffirming the sequence of events described in the original protest of 11 April the Note laid all responsibility for the loss of the aircraft on 'those gentlemen who forced the American plane to fly over Soviet territory for the purpose of photographing Soviet defences' and reiterated the Government's protest against this 'gross violation of Soviet frontiers'.

22 Apr.—Moscow radio announced that 510,409 Japanese prisoners of war had been repatriated from the U.S.S.R. Of the 2,467 remaining, 1,487 had been condemned or were under investigation for war crimes, 9 were to be repatriated 'after receiving treatment', and 971 would be extradited to China for trial on charges of crimes against Chinese.

24 Apr.—M. Bogomolov was appointed deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.

1 May—Marshal Stalin reviewed the May Day parade in Moscow. The Chief of the General Staff, Gen. Shtemenko, in an address said 'the warmongers, the formation of aggressive *blocs*, the military encirclement of the Soviet Union and the people's democracies, and military provocations do not scare the Soviet Union'.

The president of the Academy of Sciences, in a broadcast, said 'atomic energy, which in the hands of the imperialists threatens to destroy millions of lives, is with us directed to the solution of peaceful tasks'.

3 May—*State Loan*. A twenty-year lottery bond issue of 20,000 m. roubles was announced. Bonds and prize money were exempt from taxation.

WORLD CONGRESS OF CHAMBERS OF COMMERCE.

26 Apr.—A meeting of the Congress in Rome ended by approving in principle a proposal to create a permanent international office of Chambers of Commerce, with headquarters in Paris.

YUGOSLAVIA. 20 Apr.—*Trieste*. The deputy Foreign Minister, Mr Mates, in a statement for the foreign press, expressed the Government's strong disapproval of Italy's anti-Yugoslav propaganda campaign in connection with Trieste and said it might jeopardize relations between the two countries. The Government were ready 'now, as in the past' to enter into direct negotiations with Italy, but they did not recognize the Anglo-French-U.S. declaration of March 1948, and would never yield

to 'any campaign on unilateral action contrary to the purposes of peaceful co-operation among nations.'

22 Apr.—Count Sforza on Trieste (*see Italy*).

23 Apr.—Trieste. Tanjug, the official news agency, commenting on the recent Soviet Note to the three western Powers, said that the U.S.S.R. wanted to maintain the *status quo* in Trieste and thus inflict further injustices on Yugoslavia. The Soviet Government had also failed to mention the possibility of direct agreement between the two interested Powers, Italy and Yugoslavia, on what was after all no more than a territorial dispute between them.

24 Apr.—It was learned that Dr Cicmil, the Ambassador in London, had been appointed Deputy Foreign Minister.

27 Apr.—Foreign Policy. Marshal Tito, in an address to the Assembly, which had confirmed him in office as Chief of Government and Defence Minister, replied to Cominform attacks against Yugoslavia and noted regretfully that the breach was widening and that Yugoslavia could do nothing to influence Russia to improve relations with her. On world affairs in general he said that the Government would oppose the formation of all *blocs* or spheres of influence. The only road to peace was through the United Nations. Economic relations with the west had greatly improved, resulting now in a volume of trade surpassing in value the country's former trade with Russia and the east. Relations with Greece had improved and a Minister would shortly be appointed to Athens. Relations with Austria were also becoming more normal owing to 'a remarkable economic co-operation' between the two countries. The Government were anxious for friendship and closer co-operation with Italy, and 'certain unsolved questions' between the two countries should not be a reason for aggravating relations. On home affairs he said that the country's main tasks were to fulfil the export plan and to raise food production.

28 Apr.—Marshal Tito, in a statement for the foreign press, said he did not consider the Trieste problem to be of current importance, still less so since Count Sforza's recent proposals were unacceptable as a basis for direct negotiations. Yugoslavia would never bargain with the Free Territory, and the sort of agreement he envisaged as a basis was one like the one he had reached with Sr Togliatti in 1946.

He said he did not believe their quarrel with Russia would lead to war, though he expected the Cominform campaign to continue for some time. But Russia could not in any circumstances risk being an aggressor. As to whether Yugoslavia would accept arms from the U.S.A. he did not think they would be offered, but in any case there was no necessity for intensive preparations for war. He thought the problem of re-opening railway traffic with Greece would be solved with the resumption of diplomatic relations. Yugoslavia still had a free zone at Salonika.

1 May—Marshal Tito reviewed a parade of 6,000 troops and some 200,000 civilians in Belgrade. Anti-Russian cartoons were a feature of the demonstrations, which were completely informal.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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| May | 11 | Conference of British, French, and U.S. Foreign Ministers, London. |
| " | 14 | General Election, Turkey. |
| " | 15 | (approx). Meeting of the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty, London. |
| " | 15 | Meeting of Commonwealth Consultative Committee on Economic Aid for South-East Asia, Sydney. |
| " | 22 | UNESCO, General Conference, Fifth Session, Florence. |
| " | 25 | General Election, South Korea. |
| " | 30 | I.C.A.O. Assembly, fourth session, Montreal. |
| " | 31 | Economic Commission for Europe, fifth session, Geneva. |
| June | — | International Socialist Conference, Copenhagen. |
| " | — | Trusteeship Council, seventh session, Lake Success. |
| " | 4 | General Election in Belgium. |
| " | 7 | I.L.O. Conference, Geneva. |
| " | 8 | Seventh Imperial Press Conference, Ottawa |
| " | 13 | Council of the International Chamber of Commerce, Paris. |
| " | 18 | Pan American Sanitary Bureau and inter-American Hospital Association, Rio de Janeiro. |
| July | 1 | African Labour Conference, Elizabethville. |
| " | 3 | Economic and Social Council, eleventh session, Geneva. |
| " | 10 | Fourth Plenary World Power Conference, London. |
| Aug. | 7 | Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg. |
| Sept. | 6 | Fifth annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Bank. |
| " | 6 | Fifth annual meeting of the Board of Governors of the International Monetary Fund. |
| " | 28 | International Tariff Negotiations, Torquay. |
| Oct. | — | Presidential Election, Brazil. |
| " | 5 | Conference of Institute of Pacific Relations, Lucknow. |
| Nov. | 7 | Congressional Elections—U.S.A. |